

Arab Council may move to Amman

KUWAIT, March 7 (R). — The Headquarters of the Arab Economic Unity Council was expected to be moved from Cairo to Jordan or Tunisia following the expulsion of its Iraqi Secretary-General from Egypt, authoritative sources said here tonight. The Secretary-General, Dr. Abdul A'la Al-Sakhan, was deported by Egyptian authorities in retaliation against Iraq and four other Arab countries over their hostility to President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative towards Israel. Ten of the 13 member-states of the Council have agreed to move its headquarters either to Amman or Tunis, the sources said. They also expected the Council to hold a meeting in Kuwait next Saturday. Dr. Sakhan was expected to be re-elected as Secretary-General, they said.

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Princess Basma interviewed

Queen Alia Fund breaks new ground in Jordan's social, cultural development drive

By Rami G. Khouri
and Ian Kellas
Special to the Jordan Times



Her Highness Princess Basma

"...As much as we can adopt the attitude of people helping themselves, this is very important..."

tional component, or components, as it hopes eventually to establish ten or more national committees in different countries. Those committees — the first is now being set up in the United States — will be composed of distinguished, prominent personalities who will work to raise money in their country for the Queen Alia Fund, as well as to act as contacts to channel expertise to Jordan if and when it is required.

The international fund-raising effort will get underway this year, and will include trips abroad by Her Highness Princess Basma and other prominent Jordanians.

Wide scope of work

The Fund will support and promote efforts that are "primarily preventive rather than curative," according to one official who has been deeply involved in laying its groundwork.

The Fund's scope of activities includes the following areas: social and vocational rehabilitation of the poor, the invalid, the aged and the neglected; development, nourishment, overall welfare and care of children; mental retardation and special education; care, training and rehabilitation of the physically handicapped; stimulation of community development centres to improve the delivery of services and increase local pride; encouragement of a strong cultural programme through increased work in art, music, drama and folklore and the cultural development of children at an early age.

With these general areas within its scope, the Queen Alia Fund will achieve its objectives by: seeking philanthropic commitments from local and international sources; providing grants, financial assistance and technical and professional expertise to improve existing services and initiate new ones; offering training opportunities for staff members of voluntary organisations; conducting research and studies to determine emerging social welfare needs; modernising the concept of social work and its programme in Jordan; promoting volunteer efforts both to explore new avenues of social services and to widen the sphere of participation by citizens; and establishing its own efficient organisation to ensure the optimum use of resources.

Following is the full text of the interview the Jordan Times conducted last week with Her Highness Princess Basma:

Jordan Times: Your Highness, perhaps you could give us the background to the idea of the fund and how you have come to be the Chairman and Executive Director.

Her Highness Princess Basma: Well, the idea was the late Queen Alia's idea and she wanted to see some kind of solid organisation which would serve the needs for the social welfare of the country, and as you probably know the idea didn't materialise with Queen Alia's death. His Majesty was very anxious that this idea should be carried out because it was one of her great ambitions, and he wanted it to be realised, and so he asked me whether we could take the responsibility of getting the Queen Alia fund started. After the late

The idea for a fund for social and cultural welfare was something that Queen Alia had been working on herself?

(Continued on p. 2)

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية العربية «الرأي»

Other cabinet resignations feared

Weizman threatens to resign if his ban on settlements overruled

TEL AVIV, March 7 (R). — Israel's defence and finance ministers were reported today to have threatened to resign over the issue of new Jewish settlements in occupied Arab lands. Israeli Radio and the newspaper Haaretz reported from New York that Defence Minister Ezer Weizman had threatened he would cut short his visit to the United States and resign if the settlers were allowed to go ahead with two new outposts in the West Bank area.

The radio said Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich threatened to step down for the same reason.

Mr. Ehrlich denied this but Finance Ministry officials were quoted as saying his opposition to continuation of settlement activities while Middle East peace talks were in progress.

The afternoon newspaper Maariv quoted Mr. Weizman as telling its New York correspondent: "I did not resign, but I put my foot down firmly."

He added: "I am not in the habit of resigning, and I don't like other people who threaten to resign."

But the paper quoted political sources in Jerusalem as saying this morning Mr. Weizman did, indeed, threaten to resign if settlement activities continued in the occupied West Bank while political talks were in progress.

The sources were quoted as saying that this was not the first time in recent days that Mr. Weizman had threatened to resign.

Talks were useful, says Atherton, ending shuttle

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 7 (Agencies) — American envoy Alfred Atherton today declared an end to the first phase of his Middle East peace shuttle saying his talks here and in Cairo had managed to bring the Israeli and Egyptian positions somewhat closer together.

The mission had been expected to go slowly the source said, affirming that Mr. Atherton would return to the Middle East after flying to Washington for consultations this week. "In our efforts, the key word is continuity," he said.

A major element complicating negotiations, the source said, was the question of Israeli settlements in occupied Arab territory and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's interpretation of U.N. Resolution 242, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from such territories.

While the U.S. and previous Israeli governments believed withdrawal was to be from all occupied territories, Mr. Begin's interpretation was different and he did not plan even partial withdrawal from the West Bank, a development the United States regretted, the source said.

Israeli reservists protest Likud's hawkish policies

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Spokesmen for the reservists said they would hand the letter to the prime minister's office today.

The letter warned Mr. Begin against taking steps which might be regretted, and expressed concern that Mr. Begin's government might insist on keeping a "greater Israel" including large parts of the occupied territories, rather than seek a settlement through territorial concessions.

Their letter is similar to one sent to Mr. Begin some months ago by troops about to

King Hussein sees no real chance for Middle East peace

AMMAN, March 7 (AP). — His Majesty King Hussein today expressed pessimism over the future of the Middle East and accused Israel of blocking all efforts toward peace.

"I am unhappy to see no real chance (for peace)," King Hussein told a news conference attended by Austrian newsmen accompanying President Rudolf Kirchschläger.

"Israel is to be blamed for the lack of progress in the peace process because of its continuous rejection of withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and its refusal to recognise the Palestinian people's legitimate rights including their right to self-determination under U.N. auspices," the King said.

The King reaffirmed his refusal to join the stalled Egyptian-Israeli peace dialogue.

"It is totally unacceptable for us to have a dialogue with people when they have failed to convince the Israelis to alter their position," the King said.

King Hussein added that mere mediation will not be sufficient to achieve progress towards peace. He expressed the belief that the United States and the whole world would have to reconsider their attitude towards Israel. Until now Israel has not only offered nothing in the way of peace but is also laying obstacles to the peace efforts, the King said.

If Sadat's initiative fails, the door of peace will be closed.

Asked about the political meaning of the reported release of Palestinians detained in Jordan, His Majesty said he was unaware of the presence of political detainees or that detainees had been set free. However, if there were detainees or others who had been freed there were cases of criminal charges subject to the usual laws and procedures the King said.

"We have one position that cannot be altered, we do not have minimum or maximum positions," the King said.

Negotiations aimed at arranging a peaceful settlement for the Middle East crisis should "involve all the parties concerned, including the Soviet Union," the King added.

King Hussein expressed his belief that the Arab world, divided over President Anwar Sadat's solo deal with Israel, "will sooner or later come together."

In reply to a question, King Hussein said his programme does not as yet include a visit to the United States for talks with President Carter.

"What we see now" the King said is changes in the Israeli conception of Security Council Resolution 242. This is apparent, he said, from the Israeli Prime Minister's statement that the resolution does not apply to the West Bank.

Explaining Jordan's position on occupied Jerusalem, the King said.

Kirchschlägers fly by helicopter to Petra

AMMAN, March 7 (JNA). — The Austrian president and Mrs. Kirchschläger today paid a visit by helicopter to Petra. Accompanying the two guests and their delegation were Princess Serafina, the minister of tourism, and a number of local officials.

After their visit to the 7,000-year-old Nabatean city, the guests were presented with souvenir gifts.

From Petra the couple was due to fly to a royal palace luncheon at Aqaba.

President Kirchschläger winds up his four-day visit and flies home tomorrow.

World News Roundup...

Important speech expected as Assad is sworn in as chief of state

DAMASCUS, March 7 (R). — Syrian President Hafez Assad will make an important speech tomorrow after being sworn in for his second term as chief of state, official sources said today. The president was expected to deal with the Middle East problem as well as domestic issues.

PLO has series of meetings with Egyptian parties

CAIRO, March 7 (R). — The Palestine Liberation Organisation is holding a series of meetings with Egypt's four political parties to explain its position on latest Middle East developments, a PLO spokesman said here today. Mr. Said Kamal, PLO representative in Cairo and Deputy Chief of its political committee, said a PLO delegation would also explain the organisation's views on the Lanca airport incident in which 15 Egyptian commandos were killed last month.

Arab summit a "remote possibility" say Kuwaiti officials

KUWAIT, March 7 (R). — Kuwait welcomes any Arab summit conference to bridge Arab disagreements over Egypt's peace initiative, but rates the convening of such a conference at present a remote possibility, Kuwaiti officials were quoted as saying here today. The newspaper Al Rai Al Aam said the officials had excluded any fence-mending Arab meeting at the present stage in view of the deep differences between Egypt and Arab opponents of its direct approach to Israel.

Chinese delegation in India seen as step towards repairing relations

NEW DELHI, March 7 (Agencies). — A two week visit here by a Chinese delegation which began today is considered here to be a step toward repairing relations between the two countries which have been strained since the frontier battles of 1962. Chinese chairman Hua Kuo-feng and Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping have both recently publicly announced their desire to bring the countries closer together and Indian Premier Morarji Desai said he was ready to talk.

The staff of N.C.R. Corporation Jordan wish to convey their sincerest condolences to their manager Mr. Donald Tengilley for the loss of his father Mr. John Augustus Tengilley who passed away in the U.K. on

6/3/78.

JORDAN TIMES

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Responsible Editor: **ALAN MARTINY**
MOHAMAD AMAD

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation
 University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan
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Israel vs. the world

How cute. Almost 11 years after the fact, the Americans and the Israelis now say they have differences in their interpretation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242. If it takes more than a decade to discover that you differ on your interpretation of the resolution, it will probably take several centuries to implement the confounded thing. This does not augur well for peace in the Holy Land, to say the least.

Frankly, we are rather perplexed, and, unlike the Americans and the Israelis, we don't mind displaying our perplexity in public. What confounds us most, however, is not the Israeli attitude today that claims to exclude the West Bank from the framework of 242, but rather the Western, particularly the American, inability to realise that what we are dealing with in the Israeli leadership is a collection of compulsive liars, professional frauds and recidivist deceivers.

What is there in the Western mind that cannot grasp the blunt reality that a man like Menachem Begin who casually massacres Palestinian women and children will not equally casually destroy the fragile international consensus that is embodied in Resolution 242? What psychological weakness is it in the Western mind that hides the fact that the Israelis accepted 242 over a decade ago because it was a convenient vehicle for their propaganda machinery and for their almost pathological tendency to defraud the international community of nations, to make them look like true peace-seekers?

What is at stake today is not so much the status of the West Bank. That will be determined by the balance of power and the will of the Arabs to confront the Israelis from a position of strength. Rather, what is at stake now in the Israeli reinterpretation of Resolution 242 is nothing less than the credibility of the collective will of the nations of this earth, as packaged in Resolution 242 and as this is attempted to be applied by the mediating efforts of the Americans.

Once again, we have a standoff between Israel and the rest of the world. We are perplexed to see that our world is so meek, once again.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Under the heading "A Step in the Right Direction" AL RA'I said Tuesday that His Majesty King Hussein has explained to the President of the Austrian Republic Jordan's attitude towards solution of the conflict in the Middle East and the main obstacle blocking peace efforts.

Austria, which had always stood for just peace, certainly now realises, more than ever before, that Israel's intransigence in respect of withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and the Palestinians' rights is the major stumbling block to peace efforts and a just peace.

The newspaper adds now that the dialogue between the United States administration and Menachem Begin's government has turned into defining the interpretation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, for detracting world opinion and wasting peace efforts in the labyrinth of Israel's interpretations of the said resolution. It has become necessary to enlist all Arab and international energies to stop Israel's manipulation of the international will as embodied in Resolution 242.

Hence King Hussein's call yesterday to all countries, during his talks with the Austrian president, to understand the seriousness of the Israeli stand and consequences involved, and to bear their responsibilities by exerting the utmost effort to make Israel change its attitude for the sake of a just peace.

AL DUSTOUR thinks that the expected meeting next Sunday between President Jimmy Carter and Menachem Begin in Washington will be very difficult for many reasons among which are: 1. Israel's official rejection of the American viewpoint which considers Resolution 242 obligatory upon Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip; 2. The U.S. administration's apparent impatience over this Israeli rejection which the Americans officially described as challenging and irresponsible; 3. Begin's refusal of an appeal by Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Head of the Council of major Jewish Organisations in North America to freeze the settlement projects, even temporarily, on the eve of his talks with the American president!

It follows that Begin is preparing himself to go to Washington "waving the challenge glove" in the face of President Carter, to let him understand that he (Begin) is stronger than the leader of the Jewish pressure forces in the United States, and that the key of these forces are in his hands, not in the hands of their leader!"

PERSPECTIVE

Women's Magazine of Jordan
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NOW

Queen Alia Fund breaks new ground in Jordan

(Continued from p. 1)

thing that they're doing, and we may have a concentration of help in some field and then you get another area in which there are hardly any services at all. Basically what we are trying to do in the fund before we get anywhere is to establish and determine where the services are complete in different fields throughout the country, be it health, education, social welfare or whatever in the government sector, and to see what the private sector and the charitable organisations are contributing from their side. Once we have a clear picture of what is happening on both sides, then one can proceed in an organised way to offer what services are needed. This has not really been done before, and I think this is one of the primary aims of the fund.

So you will have in effect two roles; one will be a funding role?

Yes. And the other will be more of an organisational role, to coordinate and study projects?

Absolutely.

Will the charitable organisations become actual members of the fund?

Well, not members as such, but in the future when, say, we are financing or backing the work of a certain organisation, then there would be working committees and members of that organisation would be included in the working committee on that project. We have our own board of directors at the moment. Their term of office will be for the next three years, and after that we have our elections and then we can open it to include maybe members from charitable organisations or from other parties which we see would be an asset to the fund. But for the time being, it's simply the board of directors and myself.

The scope of activities of the fund is very wide. You have cultural activities and the whole range of social welfare activities. It sounds as though you are going to have virtually every area of social and cultural development under your wing.

I hope so. I really do. There is an enormous amount of things to cover, it's true. We will just have to try and pick out the right priorities.

Is it really a useful thing to group all these very diverse activities under one big organisation?

It's a useful thing. And I hope that this is what will start happening automatically in the future, when we start getting funds in. Say you have five charities dealing with the blind, and they know that the Queen Alia Fund is backing 2 projects of one of the most active of these organisations. I would hope that the other four might say, well then, let's coordinate with



"...I hope that Jordanians abroad would group themselves and set up similar organisations to help the Alia Fund..."

this one and consolidate our work. I think that might happen automatically, but right now the Queen Alia Fund can't lay down the law and say: right, now you stop working and have one society instead of five. I think it will come naturally and automatically.

But the fund will be covering things as diverse as computing science and child welfare. Don't these things require very different expertise?

Absolutely, yes they do. But there would be different committees specialised in the different fields.

Yet the funds themselves will still come centrally into the Queen Alia Fund?

The funds will be allocated for specific projects. You know, our donors would have a list of our projects and they would choose what projects they want to donate to.

One of the things you will be working on immediately is a comprehensive social and cultural development plan. Will that be as deep and as broad in scope as the five-year economic plan for Jordan?

I would hope that it would be as detailed as possible and serve maybe both the Department of Social Welfare and the Queen Alia Fund.

Is it correct that you plan to start fund raising in October of this year?

Much sooner I hope.

And this will be both here in Jordan and internationally?

Yes. In fact, we plan to start almost immediately -- locally, internationally and locally.

Do you need to have any legal groundwork prepared?

No, all that has already been done. What we did in the last year was to cover ourselves, and prepare everything, so that once the fund was inaugurated then we could start work immediately.

Could you tell us about the international dimensions of the fund-raising?

As you probably know, our international founding mem-

bers include Sultan Qabus of Oman, Madame Giscard d'Estaing, Sheikh Hamad of Bahrain, Her Majesty Empress Farah of Iran, Queen Sophie of Spain, Sheikh Salem of Kuwait, Mrs. Sadat, and the Duchess of Kent. All of the founding members, I must say, have been extremely kind and generous. They are very interested in the Queen Alia fund and very keen that it should succeed. I have had very positive responses from them that they would actively like to participate, be informed of what is going on and help wherever they can. So from that aspect, I am very reassured and very happy, and proud of that.

What we are planning to do is assist the support of international figures who have contributed in their countries to the social field and the cultural field, whatever their jobs or professions; I am thinking of people who have done a lot of social work -- set up hospitals or whatever.

You are going to set up committees in the United States that would have tax-deductible status. Are you thinking of setting up committees like this all over the world?

A major theme that came out of Crown Prince Hassan's talks during his recent visit to the U.S. is the need for people to realise that whatever is done in Jordan in terms of social investment has a regional impact. Are you also looking carefully at the regional impact of the social developments that take place here?

soon as possible. But there are three or four areas of obvious immediate need. One is the desert feeding stations. As you know the south is very arid and there's a lot of malnutrition among the children there. And there's a great need for these stations to be multiplied. So that is a priority. That is run now by the Jordanian Save the Children Fund.

What are some of the other immediate needs?

We would like to see an institution for the blind and something that could be of service for the region, rather than just Jordan, to provide training for teachers and also to cater for the huge needs of the blind in Jordan. I'm learning more and more. I'm not very good with statistics, unfortunately, but there is a huge need for this.

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Do you envisage having quite a big staff on the fund?

As the fund expands the staff will have to expand, yes. But at the moment we are quite small.

We understand the fund will be responsible for the whole area of the petitions that are presented to His Majesty. How will this be organised?

Well, each case is studied individually by the Fund's staff and would be redirected to the right person or group. Generally, every petition would get an answer and every petition would be considered seriously. They would pass through the fund and what we can handle ourselves we would handle ourselves.

What sort of a reaction have you had from the charitable organisations? Are some anxious to preserve their independence?

I hope that it can grow as large and as strong as possible, and take some of the pressure off the Department of Social Welfare. I do think that it can grow big and be a third force in the country. How long that will take, I don't know, but I hope it won't take too long.

Are you familiar with any other similar organisations which channel money into social investment in the way the Queen Alia Fund will be doing?

The idea is, I believe, quite large in the United States, but personally I have not had any experience of this myself.

As you know, this is the first time it happens in Jordan, so it is a new experience for us.

Do you find that this kind of approach to investment in social development is appreciated, or do people find this difficult to understand?

No, I think that it is greatly appreciated. And of course the further we get, the more we will be accepted.

Can we go back to the areas of immediate need?

Yes. We would be very keen on getting scholarships for our people to go and train abroad or, vice versa, bringing experts in. The handicapped is another area we want to go into very deeply. This will take a bit of time because we want to know exactly the situation of the handicapped. That would also be an area of immediate importance.

We gather you want to start with seed money of \$5.5 million. When you talk of seed money, what exactly do you want this initial sum to do?

This initial sum would begin in stage one of our projects. So this \$5.5 million is our goal; what we hope to have collected for the first stage.

Are you fund raising for this first stage mainly from abroad?

Oh no, we are starting quite actively in the next few weeks in Jordan as well. We have had a wonderful response from the people in Jordan because I think they feel that this is an idea which has been well thought of and well organised, and they are happy to help.

What kinds of fund raising will you be doing? Will you be having meetings, dinners, will you be having lotteries, for example?

We haven't gone into that too much yet. Primarily in Jordan it's going to be more personal contact. We hope to be meeting as many people as we can to explain about the fund, what is needed in the country and why we see fit to promote various projects.

I think that is the most important way to go about it, rather than to have a huge dinner and sing and people come and donate because they have to and they don't really know what they are donating for. So I'd rather have it done on a more serious basis. Plus, once in a while, maybe some light entertainment for our donors!

Have you identified any areas as top priority areas of your funding?

Well top priority areas -- I would rather say immediate needs, because we can't really ascertain the real priorities until we have our plan and that is why it is so important to get that done as

soon as possible. But there are three or four areas of obvious immediate need. One is the desert feeding stations. As you know the south is very arid and there's a lot of malnutrition among the children there. And there's a great need for these stations to be multiplied. So that is a priority. That is run now by the Jordanian Save the Children Fund.

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National News Roundup

Citizens help Jordan build new embassy

JORDAN, March 7 (JNA). — The Jordanian embassy in Saudi Arabia is to have a new building in the Red-Sea city of Jeddah. The construction of the new embassy was made possible through contributions made by a number of Jordanian citizens working in Saudi Arabia. Jordanian ambassador to Saudi Arabia expressed the government's thanks to the nine benefactors who made available the sum of Saudi riyals 126,700 for the project, the outstanding amount for the construction

French seek to cooperate with Yarmouk University

JORDAN, March 7 (JNA). — The French Ambassador to Jordan, Dominique Charpy today visited the University of Yarmouk in Irbid. He toured its various sections and discussed with President Adnan Badran ways of cooperation between the university and French universities, particularly in the scientific and technological fields. The Ambassador invited Dr. Badran to visit France for talks with University officials there on such cooperation. The Ambassador was accompanied on the visit by the French cultural attaché.

Dutch donate books to Jordan University library

JORDAN, March 7 (JNA). — The Dutch government today presented the Jordan University library with books worth about JD 3,000. The Dutch Honorary Consul in

Jordan, Mr. Ra'ouf Abu Jaber made the presentation to the library director, in the presence of the acting university president and heads of library sections. The books have special importance as they were written by noted German and Dutch historians specialised in oriental and Islamic studies.

Irbid governor orders increase in first aid facilities, police patrols during holidays

JORDAN, March 7 (JNA). — The governor of Irbid requested the Health Department in the Governorate to make available a number of first aid cars to serve touristic sites on Fridays and other holidays. He also passed orders to police patrols to increase vigilance on the roads. The new measures were taken following the occurrence of several accidents in the region especially during holidays.

Work starts on timber project

AMMAN, March 7 (JT). — Preliminary civil works are underway for the timber complex project at Aqaba. The complex, owned by the Jordan Timber Company is to be established on a sea front site of 160 dunums where ships can dock to unload timber. Initial cost of the project is JD 7,000,000 financed by the Jordanian Civil Pension Fund, the Housing Bank and a number of smaller firms. Production of wood products is expected to start before the middle of next year with almost half of the initial output going out for export.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Number of shares issued	Volumes traded	Opening price	Highest selling price	Lowest selling price	Closing price	Last buying bid	Last selling bid
Bank of Jordan	JD 5,000	5,300	6.000	6.100	6.050	6.100	—	—
Bonum	JD 1,000	55	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.150
Dear National Bank and Finance Co.	JD 1,000	622	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.200	—
General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	35	0.900	0.850	0.850	0.850	—	—
Arab Bank	JD 1,000	745	—	0.700	0.700	0.700	—	0.700
Arab Petroleum Refining Co.	JD 5,000	1,254	12.100	12.200	12.200	12.200	12.100	—
Jordan Development Co.	JD 10,000	4,714	15.500	15.600	15.600	15.600	—	15.600
Arab Aluminum Co.	JD 1,000	180	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.950	—
Jordan Chemical Co.	JD 1,000	800	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	—	—
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	2,125	6.300	6.300	6.300	6.300	—	6.800
Jordan Potash Co.	JD 1,000	60	2.100	2.100	2.100	2.100	2.150	2.200

Public services debated in Karak seminar

KARAK, March 7 (JNA). — A two-day seminar on the development of rural areas in Jordan opened in the southern city of Karak today. The minister of municipal and rural affairs opened the seminar on behalf of His Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Attending were the governor of Karak, heads of municipal councils in the governorate and other local officials. Three working papers are to be presented during the meetings which contain views for developing social and public services in the villages of the southern Governorate.

The Minister, Mr. Ibrahim Ayoub made a speech at the opening session underlining the importance of holding such seminars for planning development projects in the rural areas. He said his Ministry has allocated JD 5,000 to carry out several projects such as schools and roads in areas which still lack Municipal Councils. He added that his ministry intends to set up unified public services for the benefit of groups of villages; and has allocated funds for the construction of 25 housing units in the city of Tafra south of Karak.

KUWAITI RESEARCH DELEGATION VISITS RSS

AMMAN, March 7 (JNA). — A delegation from the Kuwaiti Institute for Scientific Research is now visiting the Jordanian Royal Scientific Society (RSS) for talks on proposed cooperation between the two institutes in the field of solar energy exploitation.

The cooperation was agreed during a visit made by the institute's Director General Dr. Adnan Shihab who took part in the Science and Technology Conference in Amman late last month.

Econoscope

By Jawad Ahmad

Is the Jordan dinar overvalued?

Two years ago, I had the privilege of going to Switzerland to attend a meeting. The memory of that visit almost faded away but was revived again by my visit to Switzerland this week. Two years ago, the Jordan dinar bought me almost eight Swiss Francs; now it buys less than six.

The Swiss economy passed through a period of decline during those last two years. Their watch industry, construction activity and tourism, to name but few, underwent setbacks. Despite that the franc managed to appreciate by about 30 per cent vis a vis the JD during those two years.

The Swiss Franc may be held together by the fact that the Swiss authorities are strictly managing money supply and keeping their rate of price increase at the enviable two per cent limit.

The Jordan dinar on the other hand has appreciated slightly in relation to the dollar, but whose currency has not? Yet our internal situation is different from that of Switzerland.

Jordan's balance of trade is increasingly suffering from wider deficits. The expected deficit of 1977 is expected to be around JD 300 million.

Moreover, the average price increase in Jordan has been around 17 per cent over the last three years. Money Supply has been increasing at a more than 20 per cent over the same period.

The government's budget is in growing deficit and its financing is becoming more dependent on foreign aid.

The credit situation is tightening at a time when industrial ventures and other productive enterprises require it. This situation is further accentuated by people's rising proclivity to hoard. This is becoming especially true in the West Bank where most Jordan Dinars are finding their way to Israeli hands. This is so because the deficit of the West Bank with Israel is growing. This deficit is financed by East Bank's deficit with the West Bank.

Therefore our external balance is not compatible with our internal one. While the value of the Jordan Dinar is diminishing in the local market, its external value is maintained by shrewd and conservative foreign exchange policy.

Now that Jordan is becoming more and more export-oriented, the import level is rising at an alarming speed, people are hoarding, the government's deficit is increasing, is it not time that the Jordan Dinar is reconsidered for purposes of devaluation?

Maybe the best course towards that is to use indirect and gradual depreciation. Yet it must be done with deftness and secrecy. Otherwise, capital smugglers might exchange it for foreign exchange deposits abroad...

This is not an easy decision. Its advantages are couched with uncertainties. Yet I believe it is worth consideration.

King Hussein will make nation wide address on Teacher's Day

AMMAN, March 7 (J.T.). — His Majesty King Hussein will address the nation next Saturday on the occasion of the Teachers Day celebrations. During a ceremony at the teachers housing project at Marj Al Hamam, on the outskirts of Amman, the King will distribute title deeds for 114 housing units to the beneficiary teachers.

The Director General of the Housing

Corporation, Mr. Hamdullah Al Nabulsi

said the distribution of the deeds will be

in implementation of His Majesty's instructions to provide school teachers, all over the country, with adequate housing accommodation.

The project includes 19 buildings consisting of 114 apartments. Each apart-

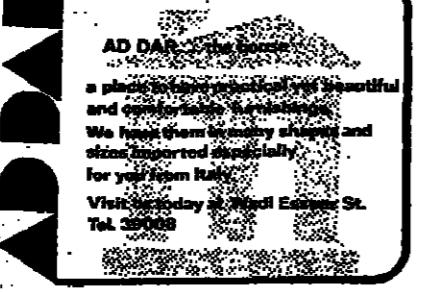
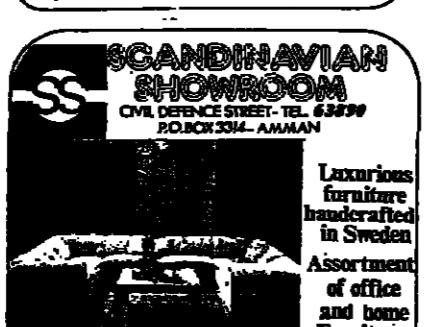
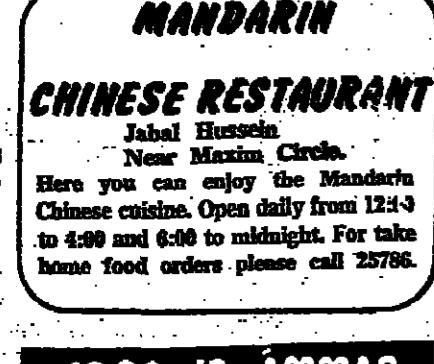
ment has an area of 120 square metres with two bedrooms and other amenities.

The project also includes a nursery, a market centre, a post office and a pharmacy along with water, electricity and sewage services. A nearby plot of land has been earmarked for a school.

The project's total cost amounted to JD 675,000. A beneficiary pays a monthly instalment of JD 34,500 towards his apartment's value of JD 6,156. The first instalment, however, will be JD 616.

Housing projects for school teachers in other parts of the Kingdom, including Zarqa and Irbid, will start within the next three months. Mr. Al Nabulsi stated.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE



Kuwaiti oil minister calls for substantial oil price increase

KUWAIT, March 7 (R). — Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah today called for a substantial increase in oil prices. In an interview published in the English-language Kuwait daily Arab Times, Sheikh Ali said Kuwait, which was trying to convene an emergency OPEC price meeting, was losing at least one million dollars a day.

"The only way to compensate for this loss is to increase oil prices significantly," he declared.

He said the million dollar loss figure for Kuwait was a conservative estimate.

Sheikh Ali did not give the reasons for Kuwait's losses but an official spokesman said two days ago they were caused by the fall in the value of the U.S. dollar and continuing world inflation.

The U.S. dollar is the currency for pricing oil, which ac-

counts for more than 90 per cent of Kuwait's income.

Sheikh Ali said Kuwait was looking forward to an agreement on prices with other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). But the call for an emergency OPEC meeting awaited the agreement of seven of the 13 members.

He said the large losses suffered by Kuwait and other oil-exporting states started at OPEC's Doha conference in

December. He did not elaborate.

Kuwait was among a majority of OPEC states at Doha which vigorously opposed Saudi Arabia's attempts to limit any price increase to five per cent. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates then split from the majority but the two sides realigned prices in July last year at 10 per cent above the 1976 price. Oil prices have remained frozen at that level since.

Observers saw Sheikh Ali's remarks as a new turn in Kuwait's oil policy. His predecessor, Mr. Abdul Muttaeal Kazimi, went along with Saudi Arabia's freeze policies during an OPEC conference in Caracas two months ago which resulted in oil prices staying unchanged so far this year.

Sheikh Ali took over the oil ministry in a new government formed last month.

U.S. oil stockpiling falls behind schedule

WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP). — The U.S. Department of Energy said yesterday the storage of a strategic petroleum reserve which began last year got off to a slower start than planned.

Energy Secretary James R. Schlesinger journeyed to Louisiana last July to start oil flowing into the first of several underground caverns which are to be filled with petroleum as an emergency supply.

At the time, the department planned to pump some 250 million barrels of oil into underground storage by the end of 1978, but the plan has fallen behind schedule.

The department now estimates the strategic stockpile may contain between 125 million and 160 million barrels of oil underground by the end of this year.



Manufacturers of solar collectors -- devices which convert the sun's rays into usable heat -- split them into two groups, the concentrating collector and the flat collector. In conventional collectors, various reflectors or lenses capture the rays. Flat collectors absorb them through a black metal surface and transform them into heat. Flat collectors have the advantage of being more successful in the hunt for weak sunrays. In contrast to the Third World or the USA, more than half of the total solar energy of central Europe comes in the form of diffused radiation. For this reason, the swimming pool at Weil, West Germany and the adjoining multi-purpose hall are heated with the energy from 1,100 flat collectors. The glassmaking company of Schott in Mainz, which was involved in the construction, has discovered that the performance of these sun collectors depends greatly on the quality of the glass shielding. Not ordinary window glass but special Borosilicate glass guarantees maximum exploitation of solar radiation and maximum collection of solar energy for conversion into heat. In the foreground is an instrument to measure the intensity of solar radiation. (INP photo)

UNCTAD opens meet aimed at easing Third World debts

EEC grants Egypt loans

CAIRO, March 7 (AP). — The European Common Market agreed Sunday to give Egypt \$204 million in grants and soft loans to help finance its economic development projects, the semi-official newspaper Al Ahram reported.

The European Common Market agreed Sunday to give Egypt \$204 million in grants and soft loans to help finance its economic development projects, the semi-official newspaper Al Ahram reported.

Dollar rises gently

LONDON, March 7 (R). — The European foreign exchange markets looked anxiously towards the United States for news of the coal strike today as the dollar rose gently in nervous trading.

There were more calls that the United States should act to stabilize its currency, and another proposal from the Middle East that oil prices should be raised to offset losses in revenue because of the dollar's decline in recent months.

President Carter's move last night, in which he invoked the Taft-Hartley Act in an attempt to get striking coalminers back to work, does not seem to have had any dramatic effect yet on the exchanges.

UAE considers setting up atomic, solar energy agency

ABU DHABI, March 7 (R). — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) might set up an atomic and solar energy agency to prepare for the day when oil will run out, the semi-official newspaper Al Ittihad said here today.

The newspaper said the UAE cabinet decided at a meeting yesterday to set up a ministerial committee to study the possibility, including the ministers of power, oil and planning.

The decision had still to be approved by the Supreme Council of the other seven member emirates, it added.

It praised in an editorial comment the early search for an alternative to oil as a source of power and said that the use of solar energy appeared especially suitable for this country -- among the world's leaders in the sunshine league.

People in the News

Algeria's Kayed Ahmad dies in Rabat

RABAT, (R). — Mr. Kayed Ahmad, former Algerian Finance Minister and an opponent of President Houari Boumedienne since 1972, died suddenly in Rabat Sunday the Moroccan news agency MAP reported yesterday. He was 56. Mr. Kayed Ahmad supported the bloodless coup in 1965 against Mr. Ahmed Ben Bella and joined the Algerian Revolutionary Council as minister of finance and planning. From 1967 to 1972 he was chief of the Front de Liberation National (FLN). In December, 1972 he broke with his close friend President Boumedienne accusing him of betraying the Algerian revolution. He has since lived in voluntary exile in Europe and Morocco.

Swedenborg's skull is sold

LONDON (AP). — A skull believed to be that of Swedish writer and theologian Emanuel Swedenborg was auctioned Monday at Sotheby's for \$1,500. It was bought by the Royal Academy of Science in Stockholm and presumably will be attached to Swedenborg's remains which are on display in Sweden. The price was about half the pre-sale estimate, a Sotheby's spokesman said. The skull was sent for sale anonymously by a collector in Wales along with a collection of books by Swedenborg. Swedenborg, born in 1688 and whose followers founded the New Jerusalem Church and became known as Swedenborgians, died in London in 1772, and a few years later his grave was robbed and the skull stolen. In 1908 the rest of his remains were removed at the request of the Swedish government and are now in Uppsala Cathedral.

Ireland's MacLiammoir dies

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP). — Micheal (co) MacLiammoir, one of Ireland's greatest actors, died here Monday night at the age of 78, his friends announced. Mr. MacLiammoir was a man of many talents -- a wit and noted conversationalist as well as a director, designer and author. His career spanned the breadth of Irish drama, and many of his published poems and stories appeared in Gaelic. Mr. MacLiammoir had been ill for three years following brain surgery resulting from a bad fall at his Dublin home. In a recent interview, he said: "I'm growing tired of life but death still holds no attractions." Mr. MacLiammoir was director of the Dublin Gate Theatre since 1928 and designed and acted in more than 300 productions there.

Converted porno-king is shot

LAWRENCEVILLE, Georgia (AP). — Larry Flynt, the 34-year-old head of a pornography empire who recently declared he had found God, was shot in the stomach and critically wounded Monday outside a courthouse where he was being tried on obscenity charges. Herald Fahringer, an attorney for the owner of Hustler magazine, said the gunman jumped into a car and sped off after the attack in this town 30 miles northeast of Atlanta. Police said they had no suspects. According to doctors Mr. Flynt was "in surgery for more than four hours ... quite critical ... but somewhat stable." One of Mr. Flynt's visitors was evangelist Ruth Carter Stapleton. President Carter's younger sister, who Flynt had credited with his "conversion," she came from North Carolina and told reporters, "I'm just kind of anxious to see how he is."

Russia's growing merchant fleet is merchant fleet is

World debts getting an edge on Western shipping

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FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1978

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGTER INSTITUTE

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Planetary conditions are difficult now and you cannot think out a problem intelligently, so be patient. Pay pressing bills and avoid headaches in the future. Emotional life is good, though.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't rely so much on friends for assistance today since they have problems of their own. Look to a partner for the aid you need and get good response. Avoid the social and save money, energy.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Show respect to big-wigs or you could certainly get into hot water now. Get work done efficiently and please both higher-ups and co-workers. Be more loving with mate, loved one.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Others are in a bad mood, so be sure to cheer them up and all goes well. A new acquaintance should be cultivated since this person is sincere. Avoid pretenses.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Instead of griping about work you promised to do, get right to it and reap the rewards. Listen to advice of him that can be most helpful to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Keep silent with co-workers otherwise you could stir up a hornet's nest and big arguments could ensue. Read that letter carefully and get the most out of it. Be kind with loved ones.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't make any changes where your work is concerned because you are bored with it. Tone up your system instead. You soon have better luck, also. Light recreation only is best now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have a talent that needs perfecting, so go at it now. Take no chances where your health is concerned.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you are blunt with kin, you can start arguments that are best avoided now. Use reason and all works out fine, also in the business world. Take no risk with credit either.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Try not to lose your temper and then drive or you could have a bad accident. An unexpected letter arrives that can be good news for you. Take it easy and be happy with kin.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study practical affairs and if funds are hard to come by, look into a new interest that brings you benefits right away. A higher-up will give support you need, also.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Stop getting so uptight over little matters and do something big and constructive and get on the right track. Strive for happiness.

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Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

Also in

Rhodesia mounts big anti-guerrilla attack on Zambian territory

LUSAKA, March 7 (Agencies). — Rhodesia has launched an air and ground attack on Zambia and fighting has been continuing for the past 24 hours, state-owned Zambia Radio said today. Quoting a government spokesman the radio said Rhodesian forces using jets, helicopters and ground troops had crossed into Zambia close to the Mozambique border at Luangwa, formerly Feira, 210 kms. south-west of Lusaka.

The radio said the Rhodesians crossed the Zambezi River yesterday morning and fighting was still going on. Zambian troops were containing the "unprovoked and indiscriminate attack," the radio said. It made no mention of casualties.

In Salisbury, Rhodesian Military Headquarters today refused to comment on reports of the attack.

Nationalist sources in Lusaka said it was believed that the Rhodesians had attacked a camp of guerrillas from Mr. Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), who are based in Zambia.

A presidential spokesman in Lusaka declined to go into detail about the attack, apparently the biggest Rhodesian raid in recent years on Zambia.

Zambia Radio said the fighting was on Zambian soil.

The attack follows last week's signing of an internal settlement agreement between Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith and moderate black leaders, excluding the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance led by Mr. Nkomo and Mr. Robert Mugabe.

Western analysts said the unprecedented duration of the reported raid appeared to indicate that Mr. Smith was em-

barking on a policy of much harsher confrontation with Zambian-based guerrillas and had abandoned hope of wooing Mr. Nkomo back to Salisbury to join the internal settlement.

In the past, the Rhodesians have concentrated attacks on Mr. Mugabe's Mozambique-based guerrillas.

But over the past 15 months, Mr. Nkomo has built up a growing force of an estimated 8,000 men. Analysts said it appeared Mr. Smith had ordered his troops to try to prevent large numbers of these guerrillas from entering Rhodesia.

Mr. Nkomo and Mr. Mugabe are both in New York for the United Nations Security Council debate on Rhodesia.

The debate was scheduled to continue today.

U.N. debates Rhodesia

Meanwhile, African states opening the debate on Rhodesia in the United Nations Security Council last night warned Britain and the United States against the newly signed internal agreement and urged that the council reject it.

The debate, requested by the 49-nation African group, seemed aimed to force the two Western powers, authors of plan of their own for black majority rule in Rhodesia, to den-

Zairese arrests confirm plot bid

BRUSSELS, March 7 (AP). — President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire announced today that 14 rebels have been sentenced and executed following disorders in the Kwilu area, some 500 kms. east of Kinshasa, the Zaire press agency reported today.

President Mobutu said a commando of the Zaire army was sent against the rebels who were holding several hostages, including a Belgian Jesuit Pri-

est, Father Julien Clause, who was freed.

President Mobutu also announced, the agency said that 67 army officers and 24 civilians will be judged on Thursday by a Kinshasa court for plotting against their country.

The presidential announcements confirm reports by anti-Mobutu committees in Belgium, which last week reported disorders in the Kwilu area as

well as arrest of officers and civilians in connection with what one committee called a plot against President Mobutu, and the other committee called a false coup staged by Mobutu henchmen to justify arrest of officers and civil servants belonging to tribes unfriendly to President Mobutu.

Fraud charges in Guatemalan election

GUATEMALA CITY, March 7 (AP). — Officials halted the vote count today in this capital city to examine fraud charges and the action caused a bitch in the presidential race among three retired military officers. Gen. Ricardo Peralta Mendez, trailing in the contest for the presidency, demanded a recount of the votes in Sunday's election, saying voting irregularities were "definitely at the national level" and not limited to Guatemala City's municipal race. Some politicians claimed there was ballot-box stuffing in the capital's mayoral election, and the count for both municipal and national offices was stopped in the key central district.

"We really don't know what we've got until we can examine the fossils more closely," said Dr. John Cosgriff, head of the joint American-Australian expedition which made the find.

"However, we are almost sure that some of them are new species."

Dr. Cosgriff, who returned to his offices at Wayne State University from Antarctica recently, told Reuter some of the 116 fossils were the size of present-day deer.

"We don't really know what they looked like," he said. "But they had shorter legs than deer and may already have begun to grow a few scraggly hairs."

Some of the species discovered are similar to others found in areas as far apart as India, Australia and Africa and lend weight to the theory that at one time all the continents of the world were one giant land mass.

"It was a very different world at that time," said Dr. Cosgriff, who returned from the Antarctic ice fields in January. "And the better we understand the past, the better we can understand the present."

The past, in terms of the Triassic period, was more than 220 million years before the advent of man and several million years before the first dinosaur emerged. At that time, the South Pole was probably in a different part of the world and enjoyed sub-tropical or at least temperate weather.

Today, the area of the Cumulus Hills where the fossils were discovered is a forbidding, windswept region about 720 km. southeast of McMurdo Station, the principal U.S. scientific outpost on Antarctica.

"The weather was really very good," said Dr. Cosgriff. "It was sunny most of the time and the temperatures got up to minus nine to minus six degrees Centigrade."

He said the scientific party camped on a glacier and roamed into the hills, where the major finds were made in an area of 26 sq. kms.

It was a rich fossil region, "probably an area where streams came together, a natural entrapment for animal carcasses," Dr. Cosgriff added.

The six crates of specimens, weighing about 680 kgs., are expected to reach the U.S. some time in April. They will go to Wayne State University in Michigan, where Dr. Cosgriff and his associates will study them more closely.

He said many of the specimens were shinned in the rock in which they were discovered to avoid breaking up complete skeletons.

French Socialist anti-PLO stand is an election ploy, says Farouk Kaddoumi

BEIRUT, March 7 (AP). — A spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation accused French Socialist Party leader Francois Mitterrand yesterday of attacking the PLO to win votes in the French general elections.

The criticism came from Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO Political Department chief and unofficial Foreign Minister, in an interview with the Palestine news agency WAFA before his departure with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat for Moscow.

"The PLO deeply regrets Mr. Mitterrand's statement ... It appears M. Mitterrand imagines that such statements could win him pro-Zionist votes to help him reach power in the elections," said Mr. Kaddoumi.

M. Mitterrand reportedly said last week that the PLO cannot consider itself the representative of the Palestinian people unless it recognises Israel's right to exist.

Mr. Kaddoumi said that the present French government of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing had taken a "much more advanced and progressive position in support of the Palestinian people's cause under the PLO leadership."

Somalis confirm Jijiga battle

MOGADISHU, March 7 (Agencies). — A Somali guerrilla leader said today fighting was raging around Jijiga in the Ogaden war, but gave no clear indication whether the key town had fallen into Ethiopian hands.

"Fierce fighting is going on there," said Mr. Abdinasi Sheikh Adan, Acting Secretary General of the Western Somalia Liberation Front (WSLF). But he said he had no detailed reports on the course of the battle.

The Addis Ababa government said the Ethiopian flag was now flying over the town, held by Somalis since they swept across the Ogaden plain last September.

The WSLF daily bulletin Danab, which yesterday claimed that the Soviet-backed assault in the area was repulsed, printed no news from the battlefield today.

Ethiopia's Embassy in Rome today reported that its country's forces were pushing back Somali troops in a two-pronged advance on the Ogaden front.

An embassy spokesman said

Five press agencies control world news, meet told

CANBERRA, March 7 (R). — The world's five biggest news agencies blanketed the globe with their news and often their interpretation of basic events, the International Press Institute's 27th General Assembly was told here today.

Mr. Sean MacBride, Chairman of the UNESCO Commission for the Study of Communications Problems and President of the International Peace Bureau, said many people in many countries felt strongly that a free flow of information without balance inevitably put the developed world in a privileged position. "It is a fact that there is an enormous gap in information facilities and resources," he deduced, delivering the assembly's keynote address to the 300 delegates. He said there were around 110 national news agencies with the five biggest blanketing the whole world with their news and often with their interpretation of basic events. "The genuine voice and image of the majority of humanity is never really heard."

Belgrade compromise?

BELGRADE, March 7 (R). — Malta, holding out against 34 nations at the European security conference, hinted today that a compromise may be possible over its demand for a European-Mediterranean dialogue. The Maltese bid for a meeting next year has been resisted by all other delegations. This is now the only issue delaying the end of the Belgrade meeting, which is in its 19th week.

World News Briefs

Libya crash kills 2 E. German officials

TRIPOLI, March 7 (AP). — Two high-ranking East German officials were among 11 persons killed in a helicopter crash yesterday near here, the Libyan news agency said today. The two officials were Werner Lammer, member of the Politburo and Central Committee of the German Democratic Republic and Paul Markowski, member of the Central Committee and Director of the Department for International Relations of the Central Committee, the agency said.

Egyptian leftist replaces Youssef Sibai

CAIRO, March 7 (R). — President Anwar Sadat has appointed well-known leftist writer Mr. Abdur Rahman Sharqawi, Secretary General of the Cairo-based Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO), to succeed Mr. Youssef Sibai, murdered in Nicosia, by two gunmen last month. Cairo newspapers, which reported the appointment today, said Egypt, in its capacity as AAPSO host country, had the right to name the organisation's secretary general.

Israel names new U.N. ambassador

TEL AVIV, March 7 (AP). — Mr. Yehuda Blum, 47, a Professor of International Law who has provided much of the legal basis for Prime Minister Menachem Begin's peace proposals, will become Israel's ambassador to the United Nations. The government decided on Sunday that Prof. Blum will succeed Mr. Haim Herzog, who is leaving his post this summer.

Turkey's malaria epidemic may spread

COPENHAGEN, March 7 (AP). — Dr. Mete Tan, Turkish Minister of Health and Social Welfare, had consultations with officials of the World Health Organisation (WHO) here yesterday on how to contain an alarming upsurge of malaria along Turkey's eastern Mediterranean coastline. There are already signs that malaria is spreading north into Anatolia from the provinces of Adana, Iccel and Hatay, and regional office Malaria experts have warned that without adequate action there is a risk that the disease will spread throughout Turkey and may penetrate into continental Europe and seriously affect the malaria situation in the Middle East.

Four killed in revenge near Cairo

CAIRO, March 7 (AP). — Three men dressed in robes and turbans opened fire with submachine guns on shoppers in a Giza grocery store, killing ten persons and wounding a half-dozen others, authorities said yesterday. The gunmen were arrested after being identified by the grocer. Four were killed but the grocer escaped unharmed. Police said a preliminary investigation showed that the gunmen were attempting to kill the grocer to revenge the alleged slaying of four members of their family by relatives of the grocer.

Brezhnev's biography a near sell-out

LONDON, March 7 (AP). — A British publisher claims a near-sell-out inside two months of the first authorised and largely hero-worshipping biography of Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev published in the non-communist world. Now the multinational Pergamon Press is planning to launch the glossy, profusely illustrated hardback in the United States with the help of Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin in Washington and Oleg Troyanovsky in New York. "Our first hardback printing totalled 20,000 copies and we've already sold 15,000 with orders coming in from all over the world," Miss Jean Beddoe, Pergamon's Press officer, told the Associated Press.

Only camels disturb Sinai's early warning detectors

By Larry Thorson

MITLA PASS, Sinai (AP). — It rained not long ago, and the Americans here recall the rare occurrence as a "real gully-washer".

Otherwise it is so calm that a herd of camels causes a stir in this graveyard of past Arab-Israel wars. "There's not much to do here," said Frank Heckert, manning the watch station on a cliff overlooking the western entrance to the Mitla Pass. Heckert, 29, and LeBaron Kincaide, 29, both Americans, monitor radio signals from sensitive seismic detectors buried at carefully plotted locations to give early warning if either Israel or Egypt launch an attack in the pass.

Their log showed that 11 vehicles, all on authorised business, had travelled the Mitla Pass Road in the first two hours of their 12-hour shift. Hunt said if a herd of camels starts grazing through the sparse vegetation of a sensor field, the monitors get confusing ra-

small marks, etched onto slowly rolling graph paper, can give the approximate weight, speed and direction of travel of the vehicle.

Camels, though they have been moving through the pass for centuries, are not on the programme.

"Camels play hell with the sensor field," conceded LeBaron Hunt, a Foreign Service officer and director of the Sinai field mission. Hunt was interviewed in the modern motel-like headquarters on a windswept plateau as the mission approached the second anniversary of its start-up late last month.

Camel confusion

The mission's four sensor fields monitor both ends of the Gidi and Mitla Passes, strategic thoroughways 30 kms. east of the Suez Canal. Hunt said if a herd of camels starts grazing through the sparse vegetation of a sensor field, the monitors get confusing ra-

ndom signals.

In addition, it is assumed that the valuable animals are accompanied by their owners, desert bedouin who have used the passes for centuries to cross the peninsula.

Camels play hell with the sensor field," conceded LeBaron Hunt, a Foreign Service officer and director of the Sinai field mission. Hunt was interviewed in the modern motel-like headquarters on a windswept plateau as the mission approached the second anniversary of its start-up late last month.

Camel confusion

In headquarters later, a supervisor was overheard correcting someone about the "proper procedure for reporting

camel intrusion" and that seemed to be the day's mild dose of excitement.

Despite boredom

Boredom is a constant worry but Hunt said 80 per cent of the staff volunteered to extend their tours for at least a short time. Working here are 23 Foreign Service officers and 138 contract employees supplied by E-Systems, a firm in Greenville, Texas.

All are civilians, and the E-Systems people make a minimum of \$25,000 a year.

Hunt described the mission as a "unique marriage of government and private enterprise" working in a tense place between two nations technically at war.

Israel and Egypt occasionally accuse each other of violating the limited-forces zones, monitored by the United Nations, east and west of the passes. Hunt said there had been 56 violations -- mostly accidental -- in the past two years.

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